

PHEROMONOTHERAPY IN DOGS (*CANIS FAMILIARIS*) AND CATS (*FELIS SILVESTRES CATUS*)

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OBJECTIVES

Bibliographic review of the therapeutic and ethologic use of dog and cat pheromones.

INTRODUCTION

Pheromones are secreted chemical factors that trigger a social response in members of the same species. The taste, smell and the vomeronasal organ take part in the reception of this response, sending the information to the amygdala.

DAP (DOG-APPEASING PHEROMONE)

Synthetic analogue of the pheromone secreted from the intermammary sulcus by the lactating bitch.

Many studies have set that this pheromone:

- Helps puppies arriving to a new environment or entering a shelter.
- Calms down the animal when it is alone.
- Reduces stress during training, improving the learning process.
- Can be used as a treatment for firework phobia.
- Can be useful to avoid negative effects of car travels.
- Reduces anxiety in hospitalized animals.

As a result, this pheromone helps the dog to adapt to new situations.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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FELINE FACIAL PHEROMONE FRACTION 3

Cats use F3 in order to mark its territory and identify it as a safe zone.

- Avoids spraying.
- Reduces arousal in non-threatening environments.
- Minimizes stress during travelling or veterinary visits.
- Increases grooming and appetite.
- Lower severity and fewer recurrence of the idiopathic feline cystitis.
- Decreases night roaming.
- Inhibits scratching where it is applied.

FELINE FACIAL PHEROMONE FRACTION 4

F4 is deposited in other cats or other species and signs them as friendly and familiar .

- Reduces the aggression risk in the clinic.
- Adaptation to shelters and catteries.
- It can be used at inter-cat aggression, but with adequate examination.

FELINE INTERDIGITAL SEMIOCHEMICAL

We apply FIS on the place we want the cat to start the scratching.

CONCLUSIONS

The pheromones have many utilities in the ethologic aspect as good as the clinical and therapeutic ones

Setting a diffuser in your clinic can improve future interactions with your patients.

Further research needs to be done in order to find new semiochemicals and new applications, and so in other species.

